

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4879

To amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to expand eligibility for grants related to emergency water assistance, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

AUGUST 5, 2025

Mr. COSTA (for himself and Mr. EDWARDS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act to expand eligibility for grants related to emergency water assistance, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Emergency Rural
5 Water Response Act of 2025”.

1 **SEC. 2. EMERGENCY AND IMMINENT COMMUNITY WATER**
2 **ASSISTANCE GRANT PROGRAM.**

3 Section 306A of the Consolidated Farm and Rural
4 Development Act (7 U.S.C. 1926a) is amended—

5 (1) in subsection (d)(1)—

6 (A) by redesignating subparagraphs (C)
7 and (D) as subparagraphs (D) and (E), respec-
8 tively; and

9 (B) by inserting after subparagraph (B)
10 the following:

11 “(C) for associated uses related to water
12 resources infrastructure, including facilities for
13 potable water, wastewater, storm drainage, or
14 solid waste;” and

15 (2) in subsection (e)(1)(A), by striking
16 “10,000” and inserting “35,000”.

17 **SEC. 3. NPDES PERMIT EXEMPTION.**

18 Section 402(l) of the Federal Water Pollution Control
19 Act (33 U.S.C. 1342(l)) is amended by adding at the end
20 the following:

21 “(4) **EMERGENCY USE OF PORTABLE WATER**
22 **TREATMENT AND FILTRATION FACILITIES.**—During
23 any 6-month period immediately following a declara-
24 tion by a State of a disaster or state of emergency,
25 no permit shall be required under this section by the
26 Administrator (or the State, in the case of a permit

1 program approved under subsection (b)) for dis-
2 charges from a portable water treatment and filtra-
3 tion facility installed in the area covered by the dec-
4 laration to provide clean water as needed to respond
5 to conditions caused by the event that resulted in
6 the declaration.”.

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